

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with John Rooney on 12/02/04.

Claims 2, 6-7, 12, 17 and 22 are cancelled. Claims 1, 3, 8, 11, 13, 16, 18, 21, 23 have been amended.

1. (Original) In a data processing system having a user terminal for accessing a legacy data base management system responsively coupled to said user terminal via a publically accessible digital data communication network, the improvement comprising:

- a. a service request prepared by said user terminal having an ordered set of input parameters; and
- b. a parsing module coupled intermediate said user terminal and said data base management system which parses said service request for removal of said ordered set of input parameters and which assembles said ordered set of input parameters into an ordered string of input parameter characters.

3. (Original) The improvement according to claim 2 wherein said ordered string of input parameter characters further comprises at least one predefined character separating said tag name and said tag value.

4. (Original) The improvement according to claim 3 wherein said ordered string of input parameter characters further comprises at least one predefined character to begin said input string of input parameter characters.

5. (Original) The improvement according to claim 4 wherein ordered string of input parameter characters further comprises ASCII characters.

8. (Original) The apparatus of claim 7 wherein said ordered set of input parameter characters further comprises a tag name and a tag value.

9. (Original) The apparatus of claim 8 wherein said user terminal further comprises an industry compatible personal computer containing a web browser.

10. (Original) The apparatus of claim 9 wherein said data base management system further comprises the MAPPER data base management system.

11. (Original) A method of providing an ordered set of input parameters, generated by a user terminal, to a remote data base management system having a data base coupled via a publically accessible digital data network to said user terminal comprising:

- a. transferring a set of input parameters from said user terminal to said remote data base management system with a service request;
- b. parsing said service request to remove said set of input parameters;
- c. arranging said set of input parameters into an ordered string of input parameter characters; and
- d. presenting said ordered string of input parameter characters as said ordered set of input parameters.

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13. (Original) A method according to claim 12 wherein said publically accessible digital data communication network further comprises the world wide web.

14. (Original) A method according to claim 13 wherein said user terminal further comprises an industry compatible personal computer.

15. (Original) A method according to claim 14 wherein said dividing step further comprises separating said tag name and said tag value with at least one predefined character.

16. (Currently Amended) An apparatus comprising:

- a. permitting means for permitting a user to access a publically accessible digital data communication network;
- b. providing means responsively coupled to said permitting means via said publically accessible digital data communication network for providing data base management services;
- c. Generating means responsively coupled to said permitting means for generating a service request having an ordered set of input parameters; and
- d. parsing means responsively coupled to said providing means for parsing said service request and assembling an ordered set of input parameter characters from said ordered set of input parameters.

18. (Original) An apparatus according to claim 17 wherein said publically accessible digital data communication network further comprises the Internet.

19. (Original) An apparatus according to claim 18 wherein said ordered set of input parameter characters further comprises a tag name and a tag value.

20. (Original) An apparatus according to claim 19 wherein said ordered set of input parameter characters further comprises an ASCII string.

21. (New) An apparatus for communicating from a user terminal to a legacy data base management system via a publicly accessible digital data communication network comprising:

- a. a service request generated by said user terminal;
- b. an ordered set of input parameters generated by said user terminal and associated with said service request;
- c. a parsing facility located within said legacy data base management system which receives said ordered set of input parameters and converts it into an ordered string of input parameter characters for said legacy data base management system.

23. (New) An apparatus according to claim 22 wherein said publicly accessible digital data communication network further comprises the Internet.

24. (New) An apparatus according to claim 23 wherein said ordered set of input parameter characters further comprises a character string having at least one predefined beginning character.

25. (New) An apparatus according to claim 24 wherein said ordered set of input parameter characters further comprises an ASCII string.